

**Montana Board of Oil and Gas Conservation  
Environmental Assessment**

**Operator:** KeeSun Corporation  
**Well Name/Number:** Postlewait 1-23  
**Location:** NE NE Section 23 T34N R3W  
**County:** Toole MT; Field (or Wildcat) Kevin-Sunburst

**Air Quality**

(possible concerns)

Long drilling time: No, 3 to 4 days drilling time.

Unusually deep drilling (high horsepower rig): No, 1600' TD.

Possible H<sub>2</sub>S gas production: Slight H<sub>2</sub>S.

In/near Class I air quality area: No Class I air quality area.

Air quality permit for flaring/venting (if productive): Yes, DEQ air quality permit required under 75-2-211.

Mitigation:

☒ Air quality permit (AQB review)

☐ Gas plants/pipelines available for sour gas

☐ Special equipment/procedures requirements

☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: No special concerns – using small rig to drill to 1600' TD.

**Water Quality**

(possible concerns)

Salt/oil based mud: No, freshwater, freshwater mud system, air, air mist.

High water table: No high water table anticipated.

Surface drainage leads to live water: None, no nearby drainages.

Water well contamination: No, closest domestic water well is about 3/8 of a mile to the northeast of this location. Depth of water well is 35'. Surface casing will be set and cement from 500', well below the depth of this water well.

Porous/permeable soils: Somewhat porous, sandy bentonite clay soils.

Class I stream drainage: No, Class I stream drainages nearby.

Mitigation:

☐ Lined reserve pit

☒ Adequate surface casing

☐ Berms/dykes, re-routed drainage

☐ Closed mud system

☐ Off-site disposal of solids/liquids (in approved facility)

☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: 500' of surface casing cemented to surface adequate to protect freshwater zones. Also, air/air mist and/or fresh water mud systems to be used. No concerns.

**Soils/Vegetation/Land Use**

(possible concerns)

Stream crossings: No, stream crossings.

High erosion potential: No, small cut, up to 1.6' and small fill, up to 1.1', required.

Loss of soil productivity: No, location will be restored after drilling, if nonproductive. If productive unused portion of drillsite will be reclaimed.

Unusually large wellsite: No, 200'X200' location size required.

Damage to improvements: Slight, cultivated land, CRP.

Conflict with existing land use/values: Slight

Mitigation

☐ Avoid improvements (topographic tolerance)

☐ Exception location requested

☒ Stockpile topsoil

☐ Stream Crossing Permit (other agency review)

☒ Reclaim unused part of wellsite if productive

☐ Special construction methods to enhance reclamation

☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: Access will be over existing county roads and existing two track trails. About 300' of new access will be built into this location from the two track trail. Cuttings will be buried in and unlined earthen pit. Drilling fluids if used will be allowed to dry in the pit. Pits will be backfilled after drying. No special concerns.

### Health Hazards/Noise

(possible concerns)

Proximity to public facilities/residences: Closest residence is 1.75 miles to the north of this location.

Possibility of H<sub>2</sub>S: Slight

Size of rig/length of drilling time: Small drilling rig/short 3 to 4 days drilling time

Mitigation:

☒ Proper BOP equipment

☐ Topographic sound barriers

☐ H<sub>2</sub>S contingency and/or evacuation plan

☐ Special equipment/procedures requirements

☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: No concerns

### Wildlife/recreation

(possible concerns)

Proximity to sensitive wildlife areas (DFWP identified): None identified.

Proximity to recreation sites: No identified.

Creation of new access to wildlife habitat: No

Conflict with game range/refuge management: No

Threatened or endangered Species: Threatened or endangered species listed on the USFWS database is the Black-footed ferret. Proposed listing species Mountain Plover.

Candidate species is the Sprague's Pipit. NH tracker website lists Ferruginous Hawk as a species of concern.

Mitigation:

☐ Avoidance (topographic tolerance/exception)

☐ Other agency review (DFWP, federal agencies, DSL)

☐ Screening/fencing of pits, drillsite

☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: Ferruginous Hawks are mobile and should not be impacted by this well location. Private surface lands. No concerns

### Historical/Cultural/Paleontological

(possible concerns)

Proximity to known sites: None identified

Mitigation

☐ avoidance (topographic tolerance, location exception)

☐ other agency review (SHPO, DSL, federal agencies)

☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: Private surface lands. No concerns.

---

---

### Social/Economic

(possible concerns)

☐ Substantial effect on tax base

☐ Create demand for new governmental services

☐ Population increase or relocation

Comments: No concerns. Well is in the Kevin-Sunburst Oil & Gas Field and existing oil and gas field since the 1920's.

---

---

---

### Remarks or Special Concerns for this site

Well is a 1600' Madison Formation test.

### Summary: Evaluation of Impacts and Cumulative effects

No long term impacts expected. Some short term impacts will occur, but can be mitigated.

---

---

I conclude that the approval of the subject Notice of Intent to Drill (does/**does not**) constitute a major action of state government significantly affecting the quality of the human environment, and (does/**does not**) require the preparation of an environmental impact statement.

Prepared by (BOGC): Steven Sasaki \_\_\_\_\_

(title:) Chief Field Inspector \_\_\_\_\_

Date: January 6, 2011

Other Persons Contacted:

Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology, GWIC website \_\_\_\_\_

(Name and Agency)

Toole County water wells. \_\_\_\_\_

(subject discussed)

January 6, 2011 \_\_\_\_\_

(date)

US Fish and Wildlife, Region 6 website

(Name and Agency)

ENDANGERED, THREATENED, PROPOSED AND CANDIDATE SPECIES

MONTANA COUNTIES, Toole County

(subject discussed)

January 6, 2011

(date)

Montana Natural Heritage Program Website (FWP)

(Name and Agency)

Heritage State Rank= S1, S2, S3, T34N R3W

(subject discussed)

January 6, 2011

(date)

If location was inspected before permit approval:

Inspection date: \_\_\_\_\_

Inspector: \_\_\_\_\_

Others present during inspection: \_\_\_\_\_